WHISTLE!

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

Daisuke Higuchi

volume 11

STAGE.90 The Offense of Hiba Junior High

WHISTLE!

Vol. 11
RUN

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NO. 9
SHOOTS
!!

FO

HIBA

OOM

QUICK... FOR A FAT DUDE!

JUMPED?

JO

OP

UPP

PHEW!

FUMP

BUT...

...IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE KEEPER!

SWAP

SHWOOM

!

FIRST TIME *THAT'S* HAPPENED.

HE BROKE THROUGH.

THAT KID...

HE TOOK IT INTO THE GOAL BOX.

HE'S PRETTY GOOD, BUT...

FWIP

HIBA

OOPS!

YOU DROPPED THE BALL!

ROLL ROLL

WHAT ARE YOU "PHEW-ING" ABOUT?

CLOSE ONE.

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT? HOW DID I MISJUDGE THAT SHOT?

GRIP

YOU THINK SO? THAT SHOT SEEMED LIKE A GIFT TO ME.

GOOD STOP.

YEAH.

TSU-BASA.

TOSS

DASH

!

AHH!

DASH

KIBA

THE CENTER BACK...IS *DRIBBLING* ?!

ISN'T HE THE SWEEPER?

SHOOM

NO. 4 KICKS IT BACK.

TH

UP

WHILE NO. 4 DISTRACTED JOSUI, HIBA'S OFFENSE MADE THEIR MOVE.

THEY'RE QUICK!

SHOO

BOTH OF HIBA'S WINGS ARE MAKING A RUN FOR THE GOAL !!

OOM

JUMP

WHO WILL GET THE PASS?

HIDEOMI, MARK NO. 6!

THOOM

JOSUI IS IN A PINCH.

WILL HIBA MAKE THE MOST OF THIS OPPORTUNITY?

JOSUI

THERE HE IS!

WHY IS HE OVER THERE?

MAKE SURE YOU FIND YOUR MARKS!

YES.

I BET THEY'LL USE A TALLER PLAYER.

SWIVEL SWIVEL

SHOOM

BIP

ANOTHER ATTACKER IS TRAILING!!

NICE SAVE BY THE KEEPER.

YIKES

SHIVER

FWAP

TU MP

CORNER KICK FOR HIBA.

FOCUS!

HE SHOOTS !!

WHAT THE...?

NEAR SIDE?

OR FAR SIDE?

!?

DID HE SHANK IT?

WHO'S GETTING THE KICK?

VOOSH

TWEE!!

THERE'S THE WHISTLE!!

PO-O

WWW

OH NO...

THEY SNOOKERED JOSUI!

NO WAY! NOT FROM THAT SPOT!

THOO

VOLLEY SHOT!!

HIBA

OW

NO. 4 IS OPEN!

STAGE.91 Tsubasa Is on Fire

SWA-
HP
!

SKR RR

SHŌ!

NO!
NOT YET!

WHUMP

OOF!

TUMP

CLASH

HIBA

SCOOP

HIBA

BOMP

LUNGE

SKRK

FUMP

THE BALL IS STILL...

...ALIVE!

FOOO

WHOA!

A HAND-STAND ?!

SERIOUSLY ?!

HIGUTA ESQUE?

BOP

WHAT?!

OMG

WHAT

.AN ACROBATIC CLEARANCE'

DUDE! THAT'S *MY* TRADE-MARK!

NO TIME TO TURN AROUND

NO!

DA!CHI!

WHOOSH

FWUP

WHOOSH

THEY'RE COUNTERING!

THE SITUATION QUICKLY REVERSES, AND NOW HIBA IS IN A PINCH!

NOW IT'S OUR TURN!

SHOOM

FOOMP

GO! MASATO!

OH NO! GET BACK!!

HIBA

MASATO !!

IT'S MINE!

DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY.

SHOOM

WHOOSH

HUH?

DASH 4

AHH! THE DEFENSE CAN'T CATCH UP!!

BOOSH

IT'S ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE KEEPER!

TUP
TUP
ZOINK
NO WHISTLE! THAT WAS ALL BALL!
THUP THUP
FUMP
THROB
OUCH
OW
YIBA
VOOSH
FWA
4

YOU OKAY?

MASATO!

HEY WE NEED SOME ICE FIRST-AID KIT

OH. THE PAIN!

NO MATTER HOW WE ATTACK THE R OFFENSE T WON'T WORK

UNLESS *NO. 9 IS CRUSHED,* WE CAN'T BEAT JOSUI

I'VE GOT IT.

MA-SATO!

YOU'VE

SHIVER

DIS

YABA

HE HAS SPEED, SKILL, COMPOSURE AND AN EYE FOR THE FLOW OF THE GAME. HE'S A COMPLETE PLAYER.

NO. 4 IS ESPECIALLY TOUGH.

JOSUI'S VARYING THEIR ATTACKS AND HIBA'S BLOCKING ALL OF THEM

YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG, SEIJI

IT SEEMS LIKE HE CAN PLAY ANY POSITION. I WONDER WHY HE'S PLAYING DEFENSE.

IT MAKES UP FOR HIS LACK OF SIZE

HE'S NOT JUST PLAYING DEFENSE!

HE'S MORE LIKE A FIELD GENERAL ...

HE'S READING JOSUI'S OFFENSE AND DEFENSE, THEN DIRECTING THE GAME

WHAA

I QUIT! I QUIT!

OUCH.

PULL

NO WAY! I'M OKAY. I CAN PLAY!

ARE YOU SURE?

SPRAINED YOUR ANKLE, LOOKS LIKE I THINK YOU'RE DONE.

I'M A "TAKE-CHARGE" KIND OF ..

SANTA, GET IN THERE

IF I WERE IN THERE, IT WOULD BE DIFFERENT

WHAT A FACIAL! TAKEN DOWN BY *GIRLY BOY!*

IT'S A GOOD GAME.

ME?

WHAT?

YUP.

READ THIS WAY

...AND SHŌ KAZAMATSURI, WHO FIRES UP HIS TEAM BY PLAYING WITH HEART AND NEVER GIVING UP

SO YOU HAVE TSUBASA SHIINA, WHO DIRECTS HIS TEAM LIKE A PUPPET MASTER, THROUGH FORCE OF WILL.

IT'S GONNA BE A BUMPY RIDE.

GULP

THUMPA

THUMPA

THUMPA

SUB-STITUTION. NO 12 S GOING N FOR NO 15

THE FACT THAT A DEFENDER IS SHOWING SOME GOOD MOVES ONLY MEANS THAT THE OFFENSE IS JUST AS GOOD. HE'S BEING PRESSURED

WHAT ARE YOU GETTING UPSET FOR?

HEH

YOU TWO SHOULD JOIN THE HIBA JUNIOR HIGH **BOOSTER CLUB.** I PERSONALLY TH NK JOSUI IS DOING PRETTY WELL.

NO ONE ANTICIPATED THAT, AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A SURPRISE HAD HE SCORED... BUT SHŌ STOPPED HIM.

HIBA CENTERED TO NO. 4, WHO WASN'T PART OF THE OFFENSE.

ESPECIALLY AFTER THAT CORNER KICK

I BET THAT WAS THE CASE WATCHING FROM OUT-S DE THE GAME, IT MAKES SENSE.

I MEAN. SHŌ HAS A SPEC.AL K.ND OF COMPOSURE . I GET THE FEEL.NG THAT HE CAN MAKE TH NGS HAPPEN WHILE HE'S .N THE GAME.

IT'S PROBAB..Y NOT THAT SHŌ READ THE PLAY--I TH NK HE KEYED ON NO 4, BECAUSE HE SENSED THE DEFENDER WAS A THREAT.

SWIPE

STAGE.92

First Score

NOT GOOD. I'M HAVING KITTENS!!

THUMPA

THUMPA

THUMPA

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, SANTA!

I'VE NEVER PLAYED IN AN ACTUAL GAME BEFORE. I WAS IN LITTLE LEAGUE LIKE A MILLION YEARS AGO, BUT I'VE ONLY REALLY PLAYED IN PRACTICE.

TEETER

GULP

YIKE

GO GET 'EM!

STAGE.92
First Score

KNO. . KNOCK IT OFF.

YOU'VE GOT TO GET AGGRESSIVE!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING? YOU WERE JUST STANDING AROUND DURING THE FIRST HALF!

HEY, SANTA!

YUKI, WHERE'S THE DRINK POWDER ?!

EVEN IF I ATTACK THE BALL, THE GAME DEVELOPS SO FAST I CAN'T KEEP UP. IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS.

THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WATCHING AND ACTUALLY PLAYING.

LIKE I NEED *YOU* TO TELL ME THAT.

IT'S RIGHT UNDER THERE

	JOSUI	HIBA
FIRST HALF	0	0
SECOND HALF		
TOTAL	0	0

THAT'S THE HALF!

I AGREE

THEY'RE KEEPING EACH OTHER IN CHECK, BUT THE FLOW OF THE GAME MIGHT CHANGE IN THE SECOND HALF

SEEMS LIKE IT'S *ANYBODY'S* GAME

GOOD GAME, HUH?

CHATER

CHATER

SWOOP!

FLING

SHI-GEKI.

SOMETHING WRONG SHIGEKI?

HMM.

...

I'M ENJOYING THE GAME. LET'S JUST PLAY.

I DON'T KICK THE BALL WITH MY ARM, DO I?

TATSU-BOY!

WHAT'S WITH YOUR RIGHT ARM?

STOP CALLING ME "BOSS."

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, BOSS

HUH?

HOW ABOUT YOU? YOU SEEM TO BE KICKING BUTT TODAY.

I KNOW YOU HAVE SOME ISSUES W TH NO. 11 ...

NOPE? BUT

SO I NTENTIONA...Y MOVED YOU TO THE LEFT

NOPE.

BUT HE WOULD TOTALLY SCHOOL YOU.

I UNDER-STAND THAT YOU WANT TO TAKE HIM ON.

GRIP

SIZZLE

RECK-LESSNESS S MY SPECIALTY

CAN'T GUARANTEE IT

JUST DON'T BE RECKLESS, ALL RIGHT?

SHEESH.

TSU-BASA.

C'MON!

...TO RIGHT WING.

PLEASE SHIFT ME OVER...

HIBA

JOLT

DON'T YOU *DARE* DISAPPOINT ME.

...YOU'D BETTER SHOW ME YOUR BEST STUFF.

HIBA

OKAY!

HIBA

HIBA

HIBA

HIBA

HIBA

I FIGURED OUT HOW WE CAN BREAK DOWN JOSL.

IT'S TIME LET'S GO GET SOME GOALS.

ALSO ...

MA-SAK..

HIBA

IT'S *EASIER* FOR ME TO PLAY THE LEFT SIDE

TSU-BASA, I WANT TO SWITCH, TOO.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO MAKE SURE WE COVER THAT SIDE

EVEN IF IT'S A MIS-MATCH, IT'S OKAY, ISN'T IT?

ALL RIGHT!!

BUT, IN EXCHANGE

DURING THE SECOND HALF, MASAK WILL TAKE LEFT WING AND NAOK WILL TAKE RIGHT

OKAY, *OKAY.*

HIBA

GEEZ.

TUMP

YEAH!

SECOND HALF. EVERYBODY FOCUS!

VOOSH

THUMPA

SANTA!

AH!

BOMP

FUMP

YEAH?

KAORU.

TWEET

SURE, COACH

FEED SANTA THE BALL HE NEEDS TO SHAKE OFF THE RUST

DURING THE FIRST HALF, NO. 15 DIDN'T TOUCH THE BALL AT ALL SO I BET THEY'LL GIVE THE BALL TO HIM AT THE START OF THE SECOND HALF

WHEN THEY DO, TAKE HIM DOWN.

AH.

GOT IT!

WHOOSH

WHAT?

SANTA! IN FRONT!

BA
MD

WISSH

GOAL!!

SMAP

OH NO!

TOO

LOW

IF ONLY WE'D LET HIM TOUCH THE BA... IMMEDIATELY AFTER HE CAME IN, HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO STIFF.

HE'S BEEN ON THE RESERVE LIST FOR A LONG TIME AND HE'S JUST NOW GETTING PLAYING TIME NO WONDER HE'S NERVOUS.

WE'D BETTER DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM.

WE'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF TIME TO TURN THINGS AROUND

DON'T WORRY, SANTA.

NOW THAT HIS MISTAKE ALLOWED THEM TO SCORE HE'S EVEN MORE MESSED UP.

!

BIP

TWEEEE

JOSUI KICKS OFF.

FOOMP

TATSUYA, CAN I HAVE A QUICK WORD?

HM?

MY ADVICE BACK-FIRED.

IT WAS MY FAULT

THAT'S JUST WHAT I EXPECTED FROM HIBA.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE NERVOUS SUB ON HIS FIRST TOUCH

STRAIGHT AWAY

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

I... I...

S... SORRY.

IT WAS PARTIALLY OUR FAULT, TOO

I'M SORRY.

SMAP

YO, OCTOPUS!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FUNDAMENTALS...? GET A GRIP

TRAPPING A PASS IS THE MOST BASIC OF BASICS, YOU KNOW

ANOTHER

I'M NOT BEING RIDICULOUS.

FUMP

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

BOOMP

ANOTHER ONE!

FUMP

WHAT IS SHŌ DOING?

WHAT THE HECK?

HIBA

FUP FUP

FFUP

BEAM

SANTA, PASS!

YOU'RE DISSING ME

YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME UP AND KISS ME...

VUMP

WHAT THE...? ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?!

SIZZLE

FWAP

JOLT

...

ZOINK

CLOSE ONE!

SHŌ ...

GLOW

MAYBE HE *IS* A GOOD GUY

LET'S KEEP IT UP.

PAT

NICE PASS.

AH!

HIRA

THEY'RE ATTACKING!

WHY ARE YOU LETTING THEM THROUGH ?!

HIRA

BOOMB

FOOM

THUP

STAGE.93 Off in the Distance

WHISTLE!

GOOD JOB, SANTA.

TUP

SHADOW

TOUCH PASS! THEY'VE BROKEN THROUGH ...

FOOM

HIBA

THOOM

DASH

SANTA, CROSS IT!

HIBA

HIBA

HIBA

I KNOW HE'S BETTER THAN I AM.

HE WILL TOTALLY SCHOOL YOU.

TSUBASA...

...I CAN'T LOSE. **NO MATTER WHAT.**

BUT THIS FIGHT IS SOMETHING.

YUBA

BRING IT ON, SHIGEKI!

SHIGEKI.

NAOKI.

10

SHIGEKI!

MONKEY!

... SHIGEKI!!

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT...

THEN HE'LL MOVE TO THE LEFT THAT'S THE MOVE!

THEN, HE FAKES A KICK TO THE RIGHT AS HE STEPS OVER IT

ROLLING THE BALL UNDER HIS LEFT FOOT HE FEINTS TO THE LEFT ONCE

WOOSH

IT'S THE LEFT!!

HE STEPPED OVER IT

.. TO SHOW ME SOME RESPECT!

TODAY I .. FORCE YOU.

THWOOP

THIS IS IT!

STOMP

HOW DID...?

IT'S JUST THAT I HAPPENED TO BE A LITTLE TIRED TODAY!

IT'S NOT LIKE I LOST!

YOU ALWAYS "HAPPEN" TO BE SOMETHING OR ANOTHER

GAHH!

WHAT? DOESN'T THAT WORK FOR YOU?

TOMORROW?

HM

I WON'T LOSE!

WE'LL GO AGAIN TOMORROW

WHAT?

VOOM

SHOOT

HOW COME ?!

I FEEL SO SORRY FOR THAT BOY...

WHEN THE BOY WAS BORN, HE WAS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BY HIS FATHER, AND NOW HIS MOTHER IS GOING TO THROW HIM OUT

I HEAR SATŌ IS GETTING RE-MARRIED TOO.

I MEAN, THE STORY ABOUT HAVING THE MISTRESS'S CHILD MADE THE HEIR OF THE FUJIMURA FORTUNE AFTER ALL THEY'VE HAD ALL GIRLS IN THAT FAMILY

TOMORROW THEN.

IT'S AS IF HE WAS A STRANGER

HOW COME DIDN'T HE SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?

HE DIDN'T SHOW UP.

BUT THE FOLLOWING DAY

SHIGEKI !!

THAT'S WHY I ...

YOU RUN AWAY WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING IMPORTANT.

YOU WERE ALWAYS LIKE THAT EVEN WHEN I FACE YOU STRAIGHT ON, YOU SKIP AROUND ME

ISN'T SATŌ THE MISTRESS OF THAT RICH MERCHANT, FUJIMURA?

I HEARD THAT SATŌ'S BOY RAN AWAY FROM HOME YESTERDAY

SO THAT STORY'S TRUE..

GOSSIP GOSSIP

THAT MORON!

GEEZ.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!

PREPARE YOURSELF!!

NOT TODAY!

DASH DASH DASH

WHAM THUD

HYBA

HYBA

SWISH

DI

!

A

SH

THAT GUY HAS AMAZING BALANCE!

GOT HIM WITH THE PULL-PUSH?!

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!

I...

SK

APPP

MONKEY!

TIME FOR YOU TO GET OFF MY BACK!

ADMIT DEFEAT. THIS IS A LONG TIME COMING, SHIGEKI!

SHUT UP!

NEVER!

THUD

TRIP

TRIP

UP

STO

MP

HAVE IT YOUR WAY!

SHIGEKI!

NO!

SO THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GONNA BE?

OKAY ...

LEAVE ME ALONE

WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU LOOK GLUM.

NOBODY'S GOTTEN BEAT JUST YET! WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED!

SHUT UP!

HIBA

VOOP

GONNA LAY DOWN AND QUIT NOW THAT I'VE BEATEN YOU?

TWITCH

ZUP

BAM

THE LAST PASS FROM NO. 11 IS CUT OFF BY A HIBA DEFENDER!

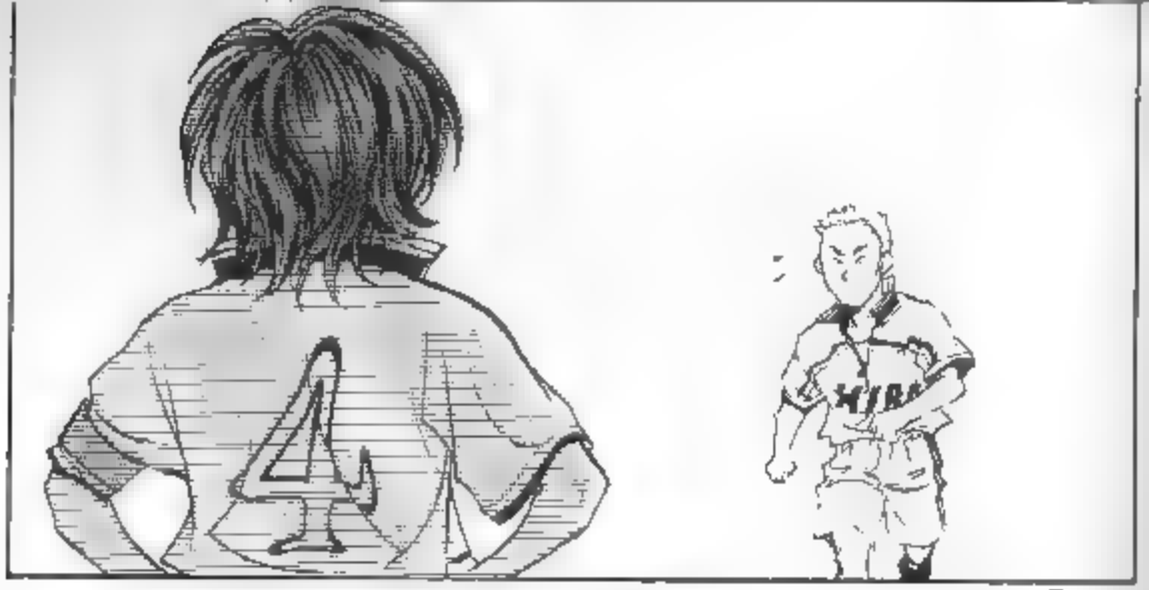
HUFF

JOSH

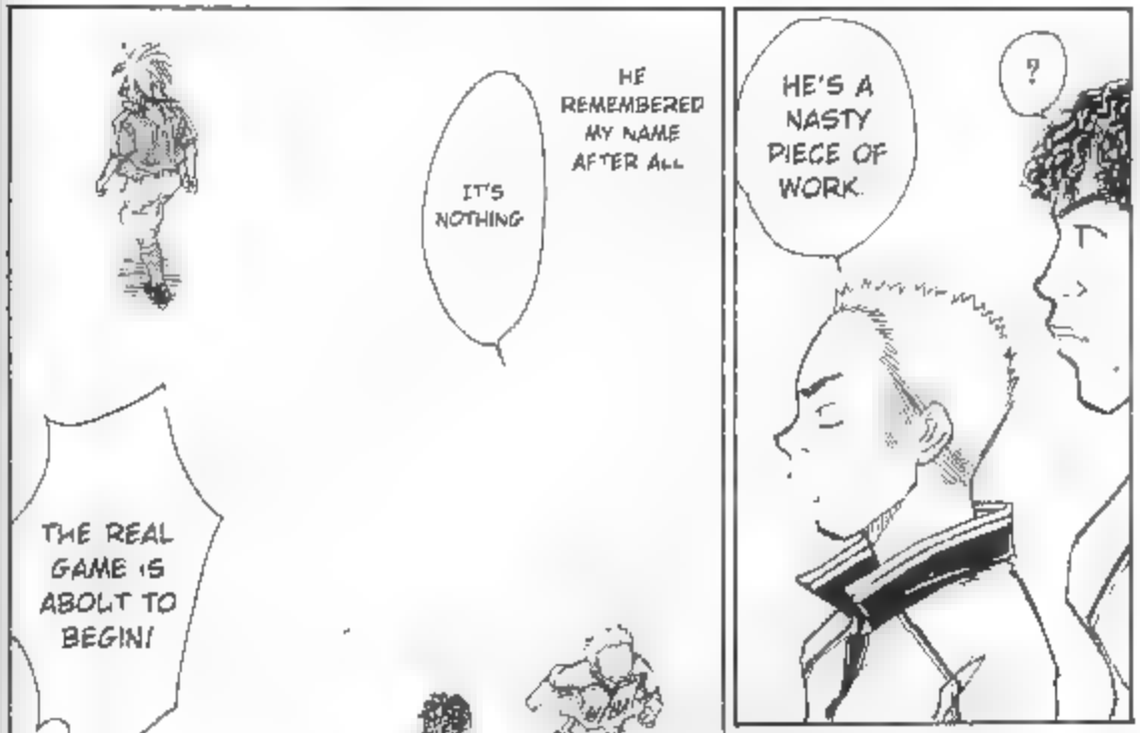
BUT A WONDER-FUL PLAY

BUP

NO GOA....



STAGE.94
The Tying Goal



FOOM

VOOSH

AH.

AFTER HE INTERCEPTED THE BALL

HE SENT THE LONG BALL DOWNFIELD!

THOOM

HIBA IS CHALLENGING AGAIN!!

IT'S A SWIFT ATTACK !!

WE'RE GONNA DESTROY THEM!

YEAH!

THREE OF THEM ARE ATTACKING THE GOAL ?!

CENTER-ING!

HE BARELY STOPPED IT.

HIBA STILL HAS THE BALL.

FWAM

THE KEEPER JUMPED SIDEWAYS!

NOOO!

SW

AP

ONCE AGAIN, NO. 8 CLEARS!

I WON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE TWICE!

GET...

SW

AP

BA

AHH!

BUT HIBA PUSHES BACK!

BOOM

NO 8 CLEARS!

FWAP

HAAM

ZOOP

TOOOM

STRIKERS! ATTACK!!

FWAP

...OUTTA MY FACE!

DASH

BOOM!

...AND NOW IT'S JOSUI'S TURN.

THEY REPELLED HIBA'S FURIOUS ATTACK ...

10:0

TRAPPING THE BALL

SPIN

TUMP

BUMP

WHAT?

SWAP

FORGET ABOUT IT!

HMPH!

SWAP

NO. 10 IS FREE! THE KEEPER IS CHARGING HIM!!

THE OFFSIDE TRAP FAILED!

GOT IT!

HE DODGED IT!

FOOSH

BOOM

ONE GOAL...

GLANCE

THIS TIME, IT'S JOSUI WITH THE FIERCE ATTACK!

BUT HIBA STUCK TO ITS GUNS!

JOSUI CANNOT SCORE!

TICK

BUT THEY STILL CAN'T SCORE

THEY'RE GETTING EXHAUSTED.

THEY'RE ALL DOING THEIR BEST. GOING BEYOND EVEN WHAT I TAUGHT THEM.

AT THIS POINT, IT'S A BATTLE OF WILLS

HIBA

AND IT'LL ALL BE OVER THE MOMENT THEY GIVE UP

IT'S NOT LOOKING GOOD

PLEASE

WHY?

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL LOSE.

THIS IS BORING...

HEY.

WHY CAN'T THEY SCORE WHEN THEY'RE ATTACKING SO MUCH?

SO ARE YOU GOING TO STOP ROOTING FOR THEM?

C'MON, IT'S THE *TRUTH*, RIGHT?

CAN'T YOU SEE THEY'RE TRYING ?!

STOP IT!

HIBA

BOMP

HIBA

WHAT?!

FO

OM

KY

HH

YER NOT GOING ANYWHERE!

HNNNH

YANK

HIBA

YOU...

THROB

STAGE.95 Decision

FOOSH

GOAL!!

WE DID IT!

BO

OM

GOAL!

YES!

HAND BALL!

THAT GUY

HE PULLED ONE OVER ON ME

IT'S STILL ANYBODY'S GAME!

THAT PLAY...

WAIT...

WE'RE 25 MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF, AND IT'S TIED 1-1!

FINALLY, JOSUI GETS THE EQUALIZER!

NO GOAL!

HUH? WHAT?

HOW COME IT'S NO GOAL?

HE SAW IT HUH?

HMPH!

WE'RE SAVED.

PHEW!

THE LINESMAN SAW IT

WHAT'S UP, MATSU-SHITA?

DIDN'T HE JUST SCORE?

IT WAS THE REF'S BLIND SPOT, BUT I COULD SEE IT FROM MY SIDE

WHEN HE TRAPPED THE BALL BEHIND HIS BACK, IT TOUCHED HIS HAND.

I KNEW IT.

SHIGEK.

BUT THAT WAS

...WE WON'T DEFEAT HIBA JUNIOR HIGH.

UNLESS YOU'RE CLEAR ABOUT THAT...

STAGE.95
Decision

ER...

WAS THAT

OR...

DID YOUR HAND JUST BUMP THE BALL?

...

WAS IT DELIBERATE?

SHŌ, DO YOU WANT TO DO WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN THIS GAME, OR WHAT?

SHIG

I...

I...

WELL?

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?

WHAT IF IT **WAS** DELIBERATE?

!

READ THIS WAY

WHAT'S HE DOING?!

DAAH,

AH.

VUMP

WHAT'S WRONG, SHŌ?!

HE LOST HIS FOCUS? AND THERE'S NO TIME LEFT...

I BET ...

HE CAN'T MAKE UP HIS MIND

WHAT'S WRONG WITH SHŌ?

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

FOOM

THERE'S ONLY A LITTLE TIME LEFT.

HIBA TAKES THE FREE KICK.

THAT LAST CALL REALLY PUTS THE HURT ON JOSUI!

WHAT IF IT **WAS** DELIBERATE?

OR WHAT?

OR WHAT?

DO YOU WANT TO DO WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN THIS GAME, OR WHAT?

READ THIS WAY

BUT...

...IT *IS* A TECHNIQUE TO LURE THE OPPONENT INTO A FOUL AND CHECK HIM WHILE THE REFEREE ISN'T WATCHING--BY GRABBING HIS UNIFORM OR ARM.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT FOR THE SAKE OF WINNING.

IF THE REFEREE DOES SEE IT, THEN IT'S NO GOOD. PLAYING FAIR-AND-SQUARE JUST WON'T CUT IT AGAINST THE EXPERIENCED PLAYERS OF THE WORLD.

IN FACT NO. 4 OF HIBA IS DOING A GOOD JOB HAND CHECKING JOSUI'S NO. 11 WITHOUT LETTING THE REFEREE SEE IT.

.. SOCCER THAT'S ABOUT THE FUTURE-- THAT'S ABOUT LEARNING HOW TO BEAT THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

WILL IT BE SOCCER THAT'S JUST A FUN CLUB SPORT, OR.

THIS IS THE FORK IN THE ROAD.

...IF YOU DIDN'T GET A HAND BALL AND GOT THE GOAL, HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?

IN A SITUATION JUST LIKE THIS.

LET'S SAY, SEIJI

ABOUT WHAT?

CAN'T MAKE UP HIS MIND?

SLUMP

IDIOT

LUCKY! ♡

THAT'S RIGHT IF ONE GOAL IS ALL THAT MATTERS ..

THEY SHOULD BE RUTHLESS ABOUT GETTING IT

IT'S FINE IF THE REF SAYS IT'S OKAY RIGHT?

THAT'S ALSO A TECHNIQUE, AFTER ALL

C'MON, CAP. DON'T END IT LIKE THAT

HEY THAT'S NOT COOL

GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED YOU THAT

SHŌ PROBABLY WOULDN'T FEEL HAPPY LIKE YOU WOULD, EVEN IF THEY GOT THE GOAL.

AHEM

WELL ..

FLY

!!BO

AP

SHOOM

THREE MINUTES LEFT!

FINA

GHOST ASH

BURN

NO WAY!

HE'S GOOD

MEGGED HUM.

PIECE OF CAKE

DASH

HE'S PAST ONE!

TWIST

NO. 4 IS RUSHING TO COVER THE GOAL

SNEER

JUST TRY IT!

!?

FUMB

FLICK

HIBA

WOW!

HE INTENTIONALLY KICKED THE BALL INTO THE DEFENDER'S BODY.

NO 11 IS SAND-WICHED!

4 VS 0

HIBA

HE'S TENACIOUS !!

WON'T GIVE UP!

BLT NO. 11

GO-SUKE!

..AND MOVED THE BALL INTO THE OPEN?!

YOU!

DASH

TUMP

HIBA

WHAT ?!

RAGE

YOU GUYS ARE *WEAK.*

THERE ARE TWO OF YOU, AND YOU CAN'T EVEN STRIP THE BALL

FOUL! HE TOOK OUT NO. 11'S FOOT.

PENALTY KICK!

AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR, JOSU GETS A CHANCE.

HE DID IT!

WAY TO GO, SHIGEKI!

YOU PUNK CHEATER

HEY STOP

JUST RETURNING THE FAVOR

THANKS FOR THE GIFT

PAT

HOP

DON'T TAKE THE BAIT!!

STOP!

WHOA.

WUMP

OH, NO...

TWEE

WHAT?

JERK

...IS YOUR KICK.

THIS PENALTY ...

YOU CAN'T KICK A PENALTY FROM A GIFT CALL?

I CAN'T! I CAN'T DO THAT ...

SHI-GEKI!

I CAN'T MOVE SO WELL. MY SHOULDER HURTS.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

...YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED MY QUESTION, SHŌ.

THUMPA

SLAM IT IN!

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, SHŌ!

I JUST DON'T KNOW...

THUMPA

HUFF

THUMPA

SHŌ

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

THUMPA

THIS KICK...

...WILL GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER.

SHOOM

STAGE.96 I'm Going to Win

READ THIS WAY

DO YOU WANT TO DO WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN THIS GAME, OR WHAT?

I...

HUFF

GASP

HOW ABOUT IT, SHŌ?

THUMPA

THUMPA

I...

WHAT'S IT GONNA BE?

EVERY-
ONE.

GULP

IT'LL BE HARD TO GET THIS BACK DANG! IT'S GOING TO BE AN EXTENDED GAME, HUH?

THE PENALTY S A TOUGH BREAK FOR US. ONLY ABOUT TWO OR THREE MINUTES LEFT.

HIBA

I'M SORRY.

IT WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO TIE!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, SHŌ?!

GAAH!

FUMB

"HRSB

IF I KICKED

WUMP

MAGATO:

HMM...

IT'S NO USE.

WE CAN'T WIN.

WHAT?!

A BIG MISS. DID THE PRESSURE GET TO HIM?

THE KICK IS *NO GOOD* !!

I KNEW IT.

THAT FOOL.

YOU DON'T WANNA PLAY SOCCER WITH WINNERS AND LOSERS .

YOU WANT A TOUCHY-FEELY GAME WITH GOOD FRIENDS. I GET IT.

SO, THAT'S YOUR ANSWER, HUH?

I'M SORRY.

I KNOW IT WAS SELFISH

BUT I JUST COULDN'T DO IT.

SHŌ?

HE'S CHOSEN A DIFFICULT PATH

HE REALLY IS STRAIGHT-LACED

YOU MEAN...

YOU *INTENTIONALLY* MISSED? IS THAT IT?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

PLEASE EXPLAIN YOURSELF.

TWEE TWEE TWEE

WHAT'RE YOU THINKING?

NOD

YES.

YOU'LL HAVE TO CLEAN UP THE MESS ON YOUR OWN.

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE, RIGHT?

HE WAS UNDER INCREDIBLE PRESSURE NOT TO FAIL! IT WOULD BE WEIRD IF HE WASN'T NERVOUS. .

IT'S OKAY, YŪSUKE.

HE'S ONLY HUMAN. PEOPLE MAKE MISTAKES!

IT..

IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN HELPED!

READ THIS WAY

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE

WHAT A STUBBORN LITTLE BUGGER YOU ARE YOU'D RATHER PLAY T CLEAN THAN W N. HUH?

I NEED TO THINK OF THE TEAM S V CTORY NOT MY PERSONAL CONCERNS

SO, WHY DD I ..?

IF I WENT FOR THE PENALTY OR TRIED TO GET A FOUL IT WOULD BE LIKE ADMITTING THAT WE CAN'T BEAT H BA IN A FA R FIGHT I COULDN'T STAND IT

HOW S THAT?

I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP, YET.

SHEESH TH S GUY

TAKE YOUR POSITIONS, SO WE CAN START!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SLUMP

SLUMP

WE STILL HAVE TIME LET S GO FOR THE TIE, AND GET INTO EXTENDED TIME

EVERY-BODY! MOVE!

SORRY

THIS WILL COST YOU WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO SHŌ?

IT WASN'T JUST THE LOST GOAL.

YOU LET THEM LOSE FAITH IN YOU.

YOU PUFFED-UP LITTLE PUNK!

WHOOP-DEE-DO! SO THE LITTLE BOY SCOUT REALLY HATES TO LOSE! THIS SHOULD BE FUN.

YOU'VE GOT A HIGH OPINION OF YOURSELF, SUPERSTAR! GO AHEAD AND TRY IT. I'LL VISIT YOU AT THE HOSPITAL.

WE'VE GOT THREE MINUTES LEFT, AND YOU'RE SAYING YOU'LL SCORE TWO GOALS AGAINST *THAT DEFENSE?*

OH WELL. THIS ONE'S IN THE BAG.

IT LOOKS LIKE I OVERRATED NO. 9.

HOW DISAPPOINTING

I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE INTERESTING

THIS IS ONE GAME...

...I'M GOING TO *WIN!*

READ THIS WAY

BUT I WANT TO BELIEVE IN HIM.

I WANT TO HAVE FAITH IN SHŌ, BUT...

OF COURSE NOT!

YOU MEAN, YOU UNDERSTAND, HIROYOSHI?

ONCE THE STRING IS CUT IT'S NOT EASY TO RECONNECT IT

YOU DON'T HAVE TO JUST BLURT IT OUT LIKE THAT YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL THE VERY END

...

HE MAY BE RIGHT

IT'S CLEAR THAT JOSUI HAS *LOST.*

THE MISSED PENALTY DID DAMAGE THAT CAN'T BE REPAIRED

...BLOWING THE PENALTY TOOK THE WIND OUT OF THEIR SAILS.

THEY HAD GOOD TEAMWORK UP TO NOW, BUT ...

THE GAME'S OVER.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

WE'VE LOST THIS GAME.

SHŌ'S SO PATHETIC I THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE COOL, BUT HE WASN'T THAT GREAT AFTER ALL.

WILL YOU *STOP IT?!*

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. SHŌ'S THINKING IS *ILLOGICAL.*

NO, THAT CANNOT BE THE CASE. BASED ON THE EVIDENCE ...

HE INTENTIONALLY MISSED THE TARGET? DOES SHŌ WANT TO LOSE?

MUTTER

MUTTER

MUTTER

READ THIS WAY

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE'S GOING TO PULL ***THIS ONE*** OFF, BUT...

WHEN HE WAS ACCEPTED BY MUSASHI-NOMORI.

WHEN JOSUI'S TEAM TEMPORARILY DISSOLVED.

HE DIDN'T GIVE UP IN THE FACE OF MAJOR CHALLENGES.

...I'M SURE HE'S GOING TO DO ***SOMETHING*** ABOUT IT.

HE HASN'T CHECKED OUT, YET.

AS A KEEPER, I CAN SENSE THE POSSIBILITIES....

BUT I HAVE A FEELING IT WON'T END LIKE THIS.

HE'S ALL ALONE OUT THERE

HE MIGHT HAVE EVEN TURNED HIS TEAMMATES INTO ENEMIES.

KŌ, LIKE YOU SAID, IF SHŌ MISSED THE TARGET ON PURPOSE, DON'T YOU THINK THE SITUATION'S PRETTY BAD?

...AFTER HE'S MADE UP HIS MIND TO DO IT.

THEN AGAIN, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM FAIL AT SOME-THING.

...BUT HE ALWAYS DIVES IN HEAD-FIRST.

HE'S TOO HONEST FOR HIS OWN GOOD. THERE'RE EASIER WAYS TO GO ABOUT DOING THINGS...

STAGE.97
RUN

WE HAVE NO TIME!

GLANCE

BREAK THROUGH THE FLAT THREE?

IMPOSSIBLE

FOOD

HALT

3

DO IT, SHŌ!!

, JOSUI STARTED SHOWING CRACKS IN ITS TEAMWORK.

AFTER HE MISSED THE PENALTY KICK

THERE'S HARDLY ANY TIME LEFT IN THE SECOND HALF. THEY'RE ALREADY OUT OF GAS...

HESITATION, ANXIETY AND LOST FAITH...

..AND NOW THEY'RE PSYCHED OUT, TOO.

...IT'S TOO BAD.

I HAD A FEELING THERE WAS SOMETHING MORE TO THAT KID, BUT...

HUH?!

NO. 11 DIDN'T REACT TO THE PASS?!

FOOM

FOOM

LUNGE

!?

HALT

PROVE ME WRONG SHŌ

WHAT?

WAIT!

NO. 9 IS ATTACKING! BUT...CAN HE RUN DOWN THE PASS?

SHOW US YOU CAN DO IT!

ROKUSUKE, BEHIND YOU!

IS IT A MIS-COMMUNICATION? THE PASS SEEMED TO GO TO NO ONE IN PARTICULAR...

ARGH!

WOOM

NO. 11 WAS A DECOY!!

THAT'S TOUGH

IT'S STUPID TO EXPECT HIM TO CATCH THAT PASS

NO 9 HAS PLAYED HARD FOR TWO FULL HALVES.

NO. 4 IS CLOSING ON HIM!

NO WAY...

PLEASE MAKE IT!

SHŌ...

SHŌ.

SHŌ!!

LUNGE

CLATTER

DASH

DASH

HIBA

HIBA

DASH

CREAK

CREAK

GASP

GASP

READ THIS WAY

AH!

FU

ARGH!

GOAL!

GOAL.

THO

ON

RAAH

GOAL!

HE SCORED FROM AN IMPOSSIBLE ANGLE!

SHIOMI.

KENSUKE SHIOMI.

CLANG

WHAT?

YUP.

MAYBE HE'S AN EXTRAORDINARY DUDE.

WE'RE STILL ONLY TIED

WE CAN DO IT!

IT'S A NEW GAME!

LET'S TURN THE TABLES ON HIBA!

STAY FOCUSED!

HIBA

HIBA

WHAT ?!

GRRR

HE...

.SURPRISES ME SOMETIMES.

STAGE.98 The Winning Goal

CURVE

SHOVE

I...

OOPS.

TWIST

NO. 9 IS BLOCKED OUT OF THE PLAY BY NO. 4!

HIBA

THIS ONE PLAY WILL DETERMINE IT.

FO

ON

LEMME IN THERE!

IT'S LIKE A STREET FIGHT IN FRONT OF THE GOAL!

HIBA

FEW

HAM

I HE TRIED FOR THE HEADER!

THE BALL IS STILL IN PLAY!

ROKU-SUKE!

THE BALL IS *ROLLING TOWARD THE GOAL!*

BUP

THUD

!

CLA

AHH!

SH

GAK!

THUMP

THOOF

2

SKIP

HIBA

C...

CLEARED !!

JERK

OUCH.

HIBA

THEIR TOUGH DEFENSE SIMPLY RAN OUT OF LUCK.

THAT'S THE GAME.

HIBA JUNIOR HIGH IS IN COMPLETE SHOCK!

HIBA

...

WE WON?

WHO DIDDIT? WHO STOMPED ON ME?!

JOLT

STAGGER

THROB

DON'T MOVE!

WHAT?!

SPIN

AH. HERE'S MIYUK.

HM? WHERE *IS* SANTA?

WHO'DA THOUGHT *SANTA* WOULD SAVE US?

YOU OKAY?

AH...

TWEE TWEE TWEE

G... GOAL!

UNBELIEVEBLE!

THE CLEARED BALL HIT THE HEAD OF A JOSUI PLAYER WHO HAD FALLEN DOWN.

HEY YOU STILL ALIVE?

POKE POKE

OH, IT'S NOTH NG ♡

THANKS

OH NO! YOU'RE BLEEDING !!

HOW'S YOUR HEAD?

THUMP

JUST PART OF THE JOB, BABY

HOW'S YOUR HEAD, SANTA?

YOU WERE INCRED-IBLE! ♡

DAZE DAZE

OH, YOU TH NK SO, MIYUK'?

WHOOSH

LINE UP, QUICKLY! OTHERWISE, WE CAN'T FINISH THE GAME!

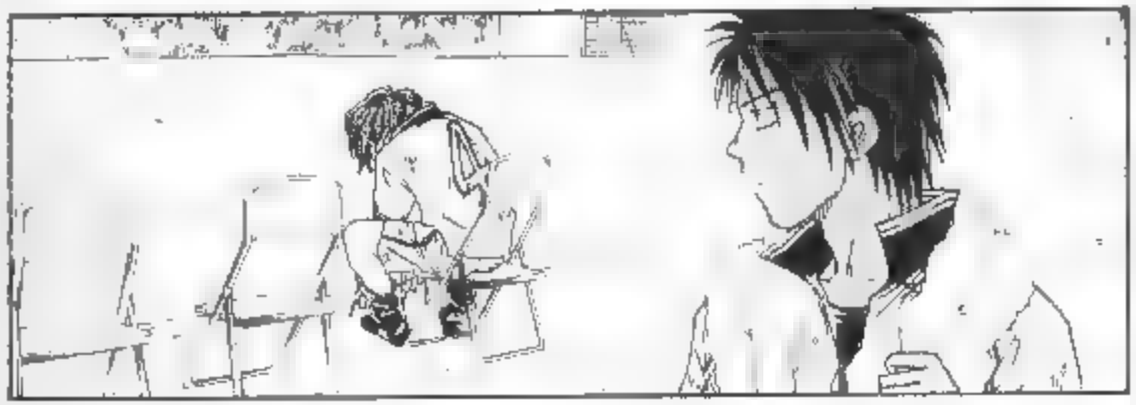
JOLT

POOR SHŌ!

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

NO. 9.

READ THIS WAY



GOOD STUFF OUT THERE.

YOU'RE BEING PRETTY RECKLESS WITH YOURSELF

SQUEEZE

C'MON, TAKE IT EASY.

YOU'D BETTER THINK ABOUT YOUR TEAMMATES MORE

WILL YOU STOP SCREWING AROUND? IT'S GOOD WE WON. BUT YOU GOTTA REMEMBER IT'S A TOURNAMENT MATCH.

IT'S OKAY TO TOUGH IT OUT BUT GET THAT LOOKED AT

THE STATE YOU'RE IN, I BET IT *WAS* DIFFICULT JUST TO RUN.

...

SHIGEK

SHUT YER PIE HOLE, CAPPY!

YOU'D PREFER TO SHOW UP HIBA WITH YOUR BRILLIANT MOVES, BUT ALL YOU COULD MANAGE WITH YOUR BUM ARM WERE A FEW CONVINCING FLOPS.

ADMITTING YOU'RE IN PAIN WILL RUIN YOUR IMAGE YOU KNOW SHIGEKI.

READ THIS WAY

YES?

ER I'M SORRY TO BE SO BLUNT BUT

THERE'S ALWAYS THAT SCARY POSSIBILITY THAT ONE PLAY CAN TOTALLY CHANGE EVERYTHING

WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOU BECOME A STRONGER PLAYER

ER . SURE

CAN I GET YOUR AUTOGRAPH?

I'M ACTUALLY A BIG FAN

HEY CONGRATS ON WINNING THE PRIMARY!

WH WHAT A SURPRISE

WHEN JOSU FIRST SCORED.

IS IT WAS JUST ME. I'D THINK IT WAS MY IMAGINATION. BUT

ALSO THERE'S SOMETHING I WANTED TO ASK YOU, MR MATSUSHITA.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BECOME A BETTER PLAYER, YOU AIN'T AT MY LEVEL YET

BUT DON'T *EVER* TALK BACK TO ME

SQUEEZE

SURE.

WE LEARNED A LOT.

GOOD GAME.

VICTORY CAN BE SNATCHED AWAY IN A HEARTBEAT.

TSUBASA LEARNED THAT TODAY IT'S A HARD LESSON

TEAMS MAKE THEIR OWN LUCK

ER EXCUSE ME. I'M THE TEACHER IN CHARGE

SAME HERE. WE WERE LUCKY

KENSUKE SHIOMI IS...

...MY FATHER.

...I SAW THE GHOST OF KENSUKE SHIOMI IN NO. 9, THE ONE WHO CAUGHT UP TO THE BALL BY THE LINE AND SHOT.

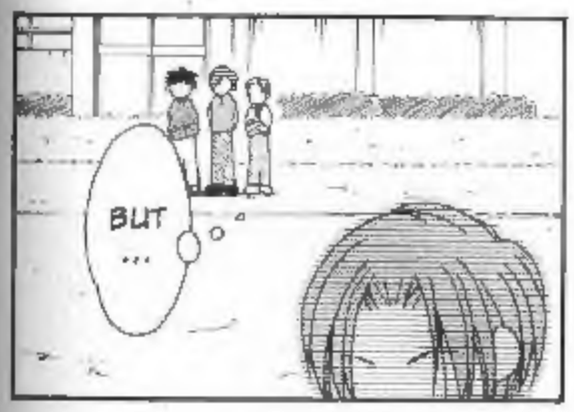
YOU SEE IT, TOO?

HE'S MY FATHER.

A Team With Character(s)

Kansai Peeps

He's a papa, after all.



WHISTLE! THEATRE !!

MANGA BY **SEKI**, ASSISTANT S

TSUBASA SHIINA

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	APRIL 19, 1983
SIZE	4' 11" 95 lbs
BLOOD TYPE	B
FAVORITE FOOD:	ITALIAN GELATO
DISLIKES:	SANCTIMONIOUS JERKS
HOBBY AND SPECIAL SKILLS:	MOVIE MARATHONS, MACHINE-GUN TALKING, SELF-DEFENSE

MIYUKI SAKURAI

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	APRIL 27, 1985
SIZE	4' 11" 81 lbs
BLOOD TYPE	O
FAVORITE FOOD:	STRAWBERRY TARTS
DISLIKES:	GREEN PEPPERS, GARLIC
HOBBY AND SPECIAL SKILLS:	BAKING

MAIKO KAMIJO

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY:	AUG 29, 1984
SIZE	5' 4" 99 lbs
BLOOD TYPE	B
FAVORITE FOOD:	SUPER-SPICY RICE CRACKERS
DISLIKES:	JAPANESE SWEETS
HOBBY AND SPECIAL SKILLS:	HORSE RIDING, COOKING (BUT DON'T EAT IT)

DAISUKE'S NOTES

NAOKI INOUE

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	MAY 5, 1983
SIZE	5' 5" 125 lbs
BLOOD TYPE	O
FAVORITE FOOD:	BEEF TONGUE, MILKY CANDY
DISLIKES:	COCKROACHES
HOBBY AND SPECIAL SKILLS:	OCTOPUS BALLS (I MAKE MY OWN)

MASAKI KUROKAWA

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	NOV 23, 1984
SIZE	5' 6" 130 lbs
BLOOD TYPE	A
FAVORITE FOOD:	CURRY NOODLES
DISLIKES:	VULGARITY
HOBBY AND SPECIAL SKILLS:	THE OUTDOORS, SWIMMING

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Next in Whistle!

IN THE DISTANCE

Shô, Tatsuya and Daichi have been invited to try out for an all-star team that will compete on an international level. New and old rivals alike gather to vie for spots on the select team, but for Shô, it's gut-check time when he realizes that his technical skills are on the bottom end of the curve. Will he be able to make the cut?

Available July 2006!